

# COMMON GROUND

A Newsletter Celebrating Neighborhoods

## Making Our Neighborhoods Successful Councilman Dan Page, District 3

### Neighborhood Services Contact Info:

Ron Littlefield  
Mayor  
757-5152

Beverly P. Johnson  
Administrator  
425-3731

Steve Hargis  
Assistant Administrator  
425-3739

Vanessa Jackson  
Program Manager  
425-3741

Sandra Gober  
Manager, Economic and Community Development  
757-5065

Office of Community Development  
757-5133



Serving as the Council representative for District 3 has been a joyful and

exciting experience for me. I am fortunate to have lived in the Hixson area for the last 35 years and have extended family that lives in the Highway 58 (Harrison Pike) area. We are certainly blessed with the natural beauty of the river, lake, creeks and the ridges.

Our area is growing and I am convinced that with good planning and following the principles out-

lined in the Community Plan we all developed a few years ago, we can continue to improve our neighborhoods, protect our environment and provide for economic development.

No matter how hard we try, there will continue to be problems in our neighborhoods that we need to correct. Many times they can be handled through a strong neighborhood association with common goals. You can secure help from Neighborhood Services by calling the contact numbers provided for you in this publication.

Please stay involved with your neighborhood association. If you are not involved, please get involved. It is only through community involvement that we can have safe, clean, attractive places to live, build better schools, and protect our environment. Support you community by becoming involved in your Neighborhood Association.

It is a pleasure to serve as your Councilman,

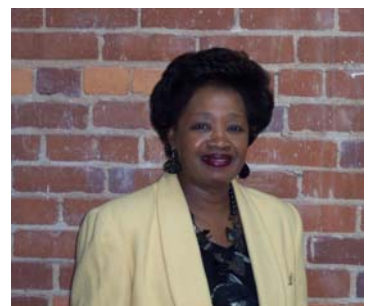
Dan Page  
City Councilman  
District 3

## Letter from the Administrator

Dear Neighbor,  
This spring in Neighborhood Services, we are looking forward to great things taking place in Chattanooga's neighborhoods as many neighborhood groups begin work on their Neighborhood Partners projects. We wish all of our neighborhood groups and community organizations a great deal of success in these endeavors.

Please feel free to call our office at any time with questions or concerns. We appreciate your interest and involvement.

Sincerely,  
Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator



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## Property Overgrowth

Property overgrowth can be a serious problem in our neighborhoods. Overgrowth is not only visually unappealing; it can create safety hazards for the other residents of the neighborhood.

The City Code reads as follows: "Wherever any premises in the city are permitted to remain in an unkept condition upon which any growth of grass, underbrush or weeds which exceeds

the height of ten (10) inches in growth, or upon which trees, vines and/or ground



covering is not maintained consistently with ordinary neighborhood standards

such property shall be considered to be in an "overgrown condition." An "overgrown condition" shall further include any rank vegetable growth which harbors mosquitoes, rats or vermin or other harmful animals; emits unpleasant and obnoxious odors; and/or may be considered dangerous or detrimental to the health, safety or welfare of the citizens of the City of Chattanooga."

If you see overgrowth in your area, please report it to the City by calling the 311 Call Center.

## Honoring the Chattanooga Human Rights Commission

On March 8, 2006, a reception was held to honor the members of the Chattanooga Human Rights Commission. Commissioners were presented with certificates of appreciation from Mayor Ron Littlefield and members of the City Council, thanking them for their service as the Commission retires.

The members of the Human Rights Commission include L. David Turner (District 1), Tanya Gipson (District 2), Lark Walters (District 3), Janet Perfetti (District 4), Cynthia Stanley-Cash (District 5), Armelia Williams (District 6), Rachel Watanabe

(District 7), Sabrina Palmer (District 8), Khalid Hashmi (District 9), Carmen Davis, Wade Hinton, Hallie McFadden, Alan Richelson, Cynthia Coleman, Charles Fields, and Michael McReynolds. All members of the Commission were appointed by the Mayor and the City Council.

The reception, which was attended by about 50

guests, marked the retirement of the Human Rights Commission. The newly created Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs will have a Human Rights and Human Relations Committee to investigate complaints.



Above: Mayor Ron Littlefield presents a certificate of appreciation to Chairman Alan Richelson.



Left: Wallace Powers, Irvin Overton, Councilman Leamon Pierce, Cynthia Stanley-Cash, and Councilman John "Duke" Franklin, Jr. at the reception.

## Employee Spotlight



**Karen Clay** is a native of Chattanooga, having previously worked for Tennessee Valley Authority, the Department of Nuclear Security, and the Department of Transportation as a Clerk Word Processor. She holds an Associate of Science degree in Secretarial Science from Chattanooga State Technical Community College and a Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Management from Covenant College.

Karen and her husband, George, have two sons, George, Jr. and Marcus, and two granddaughters, Zaryiah and Kiyah. She enjoys walking, cooking, quilting, shopping and spending time with her granddaughters. She also enjoys collecting Coca Cola memorabilia and cook books. She is very active in her Church, Holy Temple Church of God in Christ.

Karen enjoys working with the various neighborhoods leaders and groups to help them make a difference in their respective communities and encourages them to be proactive, professional, and effective.

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## Employee Spotlight



**Patricia Bryan** is the Secretary in the Department of Community Development. Patricia is a native of Chattanooga and was educated in the public schools and

earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Education (Office Administration) from Tennessee State University. Patricia completed several hours of graduate study at UTC. Prior to working for the City of Chattanooga, Patricia worked for the Chattanooga Public Schools, The Urban League, and the State of Tennessee. When asked about her position in Community Development, Patricia says the position is enjoyable and a challenge each and every day.

Patricia is married and attends Mt. Paran Missionary Baptist Church. Her hobbies include crafts and outdoor activities.

## Upcoming Events

### April:

- 1 - Heritage Park Ribbon Cutting and District 4 Community Meeting—  
Heritage Park, 1428 Jenkins Rd, 10:30 am
- Highland Park Neighborhood Association's Plants and Kites Day in  
Tatum Park — plant swap 10 am—noon
- 8 - Hug-A-Bunny Day at the Chattanooga Zoo, 11:00 am—2:00 pm
- 22 - Bushtown Neighborhood Festival, Carver Recreation Center, 10:00  
am—2:00 pm
- 24 - Brainerd Night Court— Eastgate Town Center Seniors Recreation  
Center, 6:00 pm
- Chattanooga Neighborhood Association Council meeting —  
Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga, 6:00 pm
- 26 - Court Watch Partners meeting—East Lake Seniors Building, 11:30 am

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES DEPARTMENT

NEIGHBORHOOD TALK

TUNE IN !!!

Tuesday Mornings, 9:00-9:30am  
WNOO, 1260AM - Heritage Radio

# Community Development Announces CDBG Allocations for FY 2006

The City of Chattanooga as a HUD Entitlement community has available the following funds: CDBG-\$1,963,196; HOME-\$1,116,356; ADDI-\$21,507; ESG-\$83,152; and Program Income--\$1,487,941; for a total of \$4,672,152.

**HUD funds CDBG/HOME Investment Act and ESG FY 2006-2007 funding:**

**28th District CDC.....\$167,453**  
Funds will be used for construction of housing structures in the Bush-town Community. **Includes 15% set aside of HOME Investment Act Funds.**

**CHRB (Chattanooga Community Housing Resource Board).....\$50,000**  
Funds will be used to provide housing counseling services, referrals, homelessness, landlord and tenants' rights, foreclosure preventions and workshops to low income residents.

**Chattanooga Homeless Coalition .....\$34,000**  
To provide the match for HUD funds for the management and operations of the HMIS system, and Community Voice Mail.

**Chattanooga Homeless Coalition .....\$25,000**  
Funds for the planning and application process for the yearly Continuum of Care grant application.

**Chattanooga Nature Center.....\$2,000**  
To provide environmental educational programs to low/moderate income students.

**Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise (CNE).....\$1,000,000**  
Provide home improvement and home purchase assistance to low to moderate income households.

**Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise (CNE).....\$954,000**  
Home Improvement/Home Purchase Assistance/ Affordable Rental Development/ Infrastructure and public facilities improvements/pre-purchase education.

**Chattanooga Room in the Inn .....\$5,000**  
Funds will be used to erect a storage building on the organization property.

**City of Chattanooga--Office of Community Development.....\$21,507**  
HOME ADDI--City's allocation of the American Dream Down-payment Initiative funds to be made available for partner organizations to provide down-payment assistance to eligible first-time homebuyers.

**City of Chattanooga--Office of Community Development.....\$550,000**  
To provide for the administrative activities of the Office of Community Development and planning activities associated with the management and monitoring of HUD funded projects.

**City of Chattanooga-- Department of Public Works.....\$125,000**  
Funds will be used to provide assistance for private sanitary lateral repair and/or replacement to qualified homeowners in Districts 8 and 9.

**City of Chattanooga-- Department of Public Works.....\$200,000**  
Funds will be used for the replacement of sidewalks in eligible census tracts.

**City of Chattanooga-- Department of Public Works .....\$200,000**  
Funds will be used for resurfacing streets in eligible census tracts.

**Debt Service-Loan.....\$600,000**  
Provide funding to cover the debt servicing of a loan for the infrastructure construction projects for the HOPE VI site in Alton Park.

**Front Porch Alliance.....\$48,000**  
Partnering with World Changers, the organization, through its Home Repair Project will assist a minimum of 37 eligible homeowners with minor home renovations.

**Good Neighbors.....\$397,924**  
The organization is requesting funds for the renovation of three units for affordable rental. Funding is for actual cost of project.

**Hope for Chattanooga.....\$32,000**  
With the assistance of 300 volunteers, funding to be used for the renovations of 12 houses of low to moderate income residents in Census Tract 12, Glenwood community. Funding is for construction materials only.

**St. Elmo/Alton Park Partners.....\$9,000**  
Requesting funding to cover transportation expenses for the organization's pre-kindergarten, Child Transportation Program.

**YMCA Community Action Project .....\$30,000**  
Funding to add a counselor position to increase student accessibility to the programs offered.

**YMCA - James A. Henry .....\$25,000**  
Funds will be used to improve the playground at the YMCA facility.

**\$113,000** in unallocated HOME Investment Act funds available for future eligible projects during FY 2006-2007.

**ESG**

**City of Chattanooga-Office of Community Development.....\$4,158**  
Provide funding for administrative activities associated with managing the ESG funds.

**Chattanooga Room in The Inn .....\$15,532**  
Funds will be used for operational costs associated with running the shelter.

**Community Kitchen .....\$10,000**  
To provide funding for operations of the Community Kitchen and payment of heating bills.

**Partnership for Families, Children and Adults.....\$40,931**  
ESG funds to assist with shelter operational costs at the Emergency Shelter for Families.

**Partnership for Families, Children and Adults.....\$12,531**  
Requesting ESG funds to assist with shelter operational costs at the shelter for victims of family violence.

**GRAND TOTAL \$4,672,152**

The projects noted herein were approved by the City Council in an open public meeting on February 28, 2006. Citizens wishing to comment regarding these projects and contents of the Action Plan may do so in writing to: Office of Community Development, City Hall Annex, Room 201, 100 E. 11th Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402. **Written comments must be received by April 30, 2006.**

## DEMOLITIONS

Properties that will be discussed at a hearing before the Public Officer, Wednesday, April 26, 2006 at 8:30 A.M., in the Development Resource Center, Conference Room 1A, 1250 Market Street.

2210 Bailey Avenue 146N-L-006  
Keisa Avans, owner

2505 Bailey Avenue 146N-J-009  
Eddie L. & Daisy M. Robinson, owners

3464 Van Buren Street 118G-G-005  
Charles A. & Ruth E. Gilreath, owners

4508 Kirkland Avenue 167C-J-009  
Light Investments, Inc., owner

4100 Hooker Road 167C-P-007  
Phoebey Dawson Ushery & Kathy Michelle Dawson, Co-Trs.

4505 14th Avenue 168J-P-009  
Tina Tinsley, owner

# Chattanooga Fire Department Introduces Community Hour

www.chattanooga.gov



Fire Chief Wendell Rowe, along with Mayor Ron Littlefield, announces a new initiative with the Chattanooga Fire Department.

A major focus of Mayor Littlefield's first year in office is to strengthen neighborhoods, and in support of this focus, the Chattanooga Fire Department is announcing the start of a new program called the Community Hour at all 17 fire stations in neighborhoods throughout the City.

The Community Hour will occur from 6:00 to 7:00 pm every day

of the week. "One of the things we're trying to do with this initiative is to re-introduce ourselves to the neighborhoods we serve, and decentralize some of our services," says Chief Rowe.

During the Community Hour, citizens can access the following services:

- Tour of the station
- Fire safety information for your home, including a review of your personal fire escape plan
- Blood pressure checks
- Demonstration on the

proper use of fire extinguishers

- Order fire reports
- Children can learn about fire safety by watching an animated video made especially for them

Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult, and cannot be left at the stations unattended.

The CFD marked the start of the Community Hour by placing a sign in front of Station 12. Similar signs have been placed in front of the other 16 stations.